GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4750
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2000
SECURITY ARRANGEMENT IN SIACHEN
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during May, 2000 several Indian soldiers were killed in heavy exchange of firing with Pakistan in Northern Siachen sector;

(b) if so, whether Pakistani troops were using heavy machine guns and rockets and attacked Indian areas in Siachen sector as a result of which many bunkers were damaged and several jawans injured;

(c) if so, the details of casualties and other losses suffered on both sides;

(d) the main reasons for increasing the attacks by Pakistan in Siachen sector; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to beaf up the security in this area?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (e): Pakistani troops have been resorting to firing by machine guns and rockets in addition to artillery and mortars. However, no physical attacks were launched by the Pakistani troops in the Glacier region in the month of May 2000. No report of any casualty on our side has been received.

A continuous watch is being maintained over the situation and necessary precautionary measures to frustrate any kind of misadventure on the part of our adversaries have been taken.